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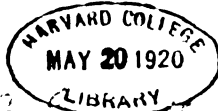
Modern Language Research Association

Copies of this issue of the Bulletin are being circulated as widely as possible in the hope that readers who are not yet members of the Association but who find themselves in sympathy with its aims may be induced to join the Association or to subscribe to the Capital Fund

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CAMBRIDGE

PRINTED AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS



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MODERN LANGUAGE RESEARCH

THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

FOR 1918-19

By SIR SIDNEY LEE, D.LITT., LL.D., F.B.A.

I

THIS is the first meeting of the members of a very young Association. The Association is barely more than three months old. We are assembled to give the infant a sort of public baptism. Some who are present are not already members, but are sympathetically (I think I may say) asking for information respecting our aims and procedure. Mr Allison Peers, our honorary secretary, is the virtual founder of the Association. You will learn some details from him of the reception which has attended our entry into the world.

The original members of the Society did me the honour to invite me to be the first occupant of the Presidential Chair. For that honour I tender them my warmest thanks. Many others could have filled and I hope will hereafter fill this honourable office far more efficiently. But I readily acceded to the request of the founders because after a little reflection I concluded that this Association, provided it receive adequate support and be efficiently administered, may serve in a somewhat new fashion a highly enlightened cause.

I propose in this address to support two main theses, firstly that it is a national interest to encourage research or advanced study in Modern Language and Literature, and secondly that this is a peculiarly fit moment for trying a new experiment in the promotion of that object. If there be time I hope to say a word on what I think should be the relations between teaching and research in the sphere of modern language and literature. And lastly I shall venture on a few practical suggestions as to methods of procedure. While we

ought to plan our vessel on broad and comprehensive lines, our sailing-directions must be positive and well defined. We look for suggestions from the speakers who will take part in the conference. Nothing can come of mere vague aspirations, however commendable, unless practical machinery is at hand to give mere aspiration a reasonable chance of translation into act and deed.

One more preliminary remark. There would be no justification for starting a new Association of this kind if there were societies already in existence to do the work which the new Association purposes doing. At a first glance it might seem that there are already in existence societies with closely allied, if not identical, aims. Twenty-five years ago there was formed the Modern Language Association, and eleven years ago there was formed the English Association. Both societies are flourishing and to both we who teach have good reason to be grateful. I have lately served as President of the English Association and therefore am justified in regarding it as a well-conducted and sensible corporation.

These two Associations are concerned with English and other modern languages and literatures. But in no spirit of disparagement, I think I am right in adding that they mainly aim at securing for modern languages the place that is assuredly their due, in elementary, secondary and university education, throughout the hierarchy of the national education. Both Associations have most serviceably devoted much energy to suggesting improvements in the methods of teaching modern languages and literature, to urging reform in the conduct of that necessary evil—examination; to urging and devising courses of study. They are in fact doing, and doing well, the hundred and one things which experienced teachers have good grounds for thinking may hasten the educational millennium. Such aims by no means exhaust the efforts of either Association. The English Association has circulated a notable series of essays in literary criticism and in bibliography from the pens of members who are experts in such matters. Invitations have lately been addressed to the English Association to undertake the purging of the English language of certain corruptions which infect it. That large

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task may well, if it be essayed, leave the English Association small leisure for anything else.

Apart from its educational functions, the Modern Language Association instituted many years ago and still supports an admirable quarterly review which under very able editorship presents fruits of very varied research. The only criticism that the *Modern Language Review* has so far incurred is that there is not enough of it. The readers and writers hunger for more. But I venture to submit with all respect and humility that the experience of both Associations has proved that the promotion on any conspicuous scale of research in modern languages and literatures and the obtaining for research in modern languages recognition as an element in national well-being and reputation, are not aims that can be very readily or effectually advanced when they are brought into close conjunction with the wearing and tearing, the rather distracting, purposes of educational reform. An Association that is formed solely and entirely to promote research, to encourage advanced study and the addition of new stores to the stock of already available knowledge, may, I submit, have a better chance of succeeding in its particular field than an Association which sets out to kill two birds with one stone. We are glad to know that the Modern Language Association is willing to cooperate with us and we have every hope that the English Association will follow that good example.

I perhaps ought to add that the Modern Language Association of America, of which I am proud to be an honorary member, is very sedulously promoting in its own country the kind of comprehensive research which our new Association seeks to foster in ours. I trust bonds of affiliation may be framed between the Modern Language Association of America and ourselves. A conference between representatives of the two Associations—after the war—would be very useful—to us. There are, I believe, Associations of kindred aims in the Allied Countries of Europe with which it might also be well for us to get into touch.

II

We shall all be agreed that the ideal state is one in which the efficient pursuit of knowledge is held in general esteem, in a general esteem incomparably greater than that accorded the pursuit of wealth, or sport or military glory. Plato insisted that Kings should always be chosen from the ranks of philosophers, from men of the loftiest learning and wisdom. Bacon argued that in a perfect commonwealth human energy should be mainly organised to the end of searching after "the knowledge of causes and the secret motions of things." No state, Bacon insisted, could reckon with any confidence on genuine or lasting greatness or happiness unless, within its boundaries, learning was constantly growing broader and deeper.

The day, we believe, is at hand when a country's proved capacity for research, for conquering and improving new fields of human knowledge, will be reckoned a better guarantee of national welfare than naval or military prowess. In the eye of Bacon and of those who think with him learning is essentially a philanthropic, a civilising, humanising, socialising force in the world's affairs. No sane judgment can allow the honourable title of learning to accumulations of knowledge which can lend themselves to the encouragement of deeds of dishonour and inhumanity, and to the poisonous sophistication of truth and morality.

It is of good promise that a state comparatively young in years but of notable magnitude in all else should be first in the field in giving practical recognition to the principles which both Plato and Bacon championed,—principles which will, I am confident, soon press for recognition everywhere. In the United States of America the advancement of learning of the true humanising pattern (as the Carnegie, Rockefeller and many large, but smaller, foundations testify) is tending to become a national ambition. May I add our congratulations to the United States that America, with eminent advantage to the world's moral and material security, should be the first modern State to confer, in agreement with Plato's counsel, the responsibilities of supreme rule on a philosopher—a

historical philosopher—on one who served an apprenticeship to advanced knowledge before election to high political office.

In this country there are as yet no such imposing foundations in aid of research as have lately come to birth in America. Yet a demand for the national organisation of research is growing articulate in many quarters, and, in the period of reconstruction on which with the cessation of the war the nation is bound to embark, this Association, assuming it to have the vitality which I anticipate, will be one of many pressing strenuously on the attention of the public and of public authorities the claims of research to due recognition.

Mr Balfour, our Foreign Secretary, to whose firm and prudent conduct of affairs it becomes us all to pay our tribute,—Mr Balfour in pleading this very cause of national research seventeen years ago (an epoch which looks in the retrospect no very exhilarating period of our history) said “We have permitted ourselves so far to too large an extent to depend upon others for those additions to our knowledge which surely we might have made for ourselves.” Mr Balfour’s remark applies with a good deal of force to branches of philological science with which this Association intends to concern itself. We have suffered the Germans to teach us very much about the early development of our native tongue. Whether or no they have done this particular sort of work well, does not touch my immediate point. The immediate issue is whether we ought not to have done more for ourselves in the past and whether we ought not to do far more for ourselves in the future.

At the same time no good purpose is served by painting our past in too dark colours, by ignoring or underrating, as is sometimes done by half-informed Jeremiahs, our own contributions to the advanced knowledge of philology or any other subject. When we examine the advances in various branches of learning, in natural science, for example, either in the past or in the present, we have no reason to be ashamed of our record. So honourable a record is the best guarantee that with the complete and efficient organisation which is at present lacking we need not in the near future

continue under obligations, at any rate to a country which has outlawed itself.

In paying closer and wider attention to the historic development of our own language, we shall be reinforcing, confirming a robust tradition which is of old standing, although in course of time it has ebbed as well as flowed. Anglo-Saxon research began during Queen Elizabeth's reign while Shakespeare was a child. The University of Cambridge then first took up the study with patriotic ardour. It is historically appropriate that this Association should have taken its rise in the same home of learning, and that Dr Stewart, the newly appointed praelector of French studies at Trinity College, should be first Chairman of our Committee. Oxford entered the field of Anglo-Saxon research in the seventeenth century. The libraries of both Universities early acquired rich collections of early English manuscripts, and much palaeographical and critical energy was applied to their elucidation. Truth compels me to state that an immigrant from Germany gave the movement some help in those distant days. In the result "Saxon" learning, as it was called, flourished in England at the opening of the eighteenth century, and the "Saxon" scholars of that time included prophetically a woman, Elizabeth Elstob, who was hailed in literary circles as "the celebrated Saxon nymph." Miss Elstob's memory should not be without honour to-day.

But in spite of strenuous effort in most branches of English philology in early eighteenth century Oxford, the end of the century saw some decline of interest. It was then that foreign scholars first figured prominently on the scene.

At the end of the eighteenth century foreign students seem first to have applied themselves to early English and other philology with a zeal and ability which, we must in fairness admit, carried philological scholarship beyond the point which it had hitherto reached here. Rask of Copenhagen—a Dane not a German—and Jacob Grimm (a German, ultimately professor at Berlin) gave a new impetus to research in the history of our own as well as of other languages.

The most eminent English investigators of the early nineteenth century derived help from German tuition and ex-

ample. But it is a ludicrous error, of a kind which the Germans have been prone to encourage, to credit the Germans with a *monopoly* in philological research, in our own or other languages through the nineteenth century. The torch was kept burning in this country during the first half of the century, and in the opening of the second half an immense impetus was given to the study by a very characteristic Englishman, Dr Furnivall, through his foundation of the Early English Text Society, which he followed up by forming the Chaucer and the Wyclif Societies. At the same time, as Secretary of the Philological Society, Dr Furnivall had a main hand in setting afloat the *New English Dictionary*, as ample and as creditable a monument of philological research as anything ever made in Germany. Mr Balfour's regret that we have let others do much for us which we might have done for ourselves is not to be wholly denied as regards philology and much besides. But do not let us overlook what we have accomplished, especially now that we are girding up our loins to do more.

This Association also purposes to promote and expand literary research no less assiduously than philological research. It hopes to deal with the history of English and foreign literature and with the disciplined criticism of English and foreign literature in which biography and exegesis play their parts. Research in English literature owes comparatively little to foreign activity. Like philology English literary history and criticism began their serious careers in the eighteenth century, and although important contributions have been made in Germany to the history and criticism of the early periods, the study of the later and the more fertile periods of English literature has been, during the past century and a half, advanced by ourselves or by men of our own race without effective German assistance. Thomas Warton's *History of English Poetry*, which was published between 1774 and 1781, began a chain of notable native achievements in literary history, of which Courthope's *History* and Saintsbury's many encyclopaedic ventures may be regarded as lately added links. I think in this connection I may without immodesty mention the *Dictionary of National Biography*.

German textual criticism of modern English literature and German contributions to modern English literary history, although invariably and unprecedentedly laborious and here and there suggesting something useful, are for the most part what Bacon called "fantastic," "contentious" and "ostentatious." They are rarely luminous or convincing, nor do they abound in grace. I am ready to include in the condemned category a great part of the interminable Shakespeare criticism which we owe to German industry. To the mass of German erudition in the field of English literary history and criticism I am tempted to apply with very few exceptions the familiar jingle of our great Greek scholar Porson when he, many years ago, animadverted on the Greek scholarship in the Germany of his day. Porson's lines run:

The Germans in Greek
Are sadly to seek
(Not five in five score
But ninety-five more),
Save only Hermann
And Hermann's a German.

It is interesting to know that this doggerel was written one hundred years ago when few of our ancestors knew the Germans so well as now.

At the same time, in spite of the valuable work which has been done here of late in philology, criticism and literary history, there are wide regions in all these branches awaiting more thorough exploration. We want more scholarly effort in this country of the sort which is identified with the name of one of our Vice-Presidents, Dr Paget Toynbee, whose researches into Dante offer an inspiring example of devotion. There should be a larger public interesting itself in such erudition.

From signs I have observed I judge that the cause of organised and endowed research in natural science is making to-day surer progress than the cause of research in literary science. One of the reasons that have weighed with me in supporting the formation of this Society is that the prospect of organising research in the departments of the arts, in the roll of which modern languages and literatures must in-

evitably hold a foremost place, are less rosy at the moment than the prospects of the sciences. The cry for developing scientific research is, we are glad to think, growing too insistent to be ignored in the coming period of Reconstruction. But we must guard ourselves against the dangers lurking in any monopolisation of the intellectual energy of a people, in any monopoly of its educational resources by scientific research to the exclusion or the disparagement of research in humanistic studies, the studies which lie outside the range of the physical sciences. One cannot live by bread alone. The empire of the mind has many provinces, and while fully acknowledging the need of cultivating more intensively than ever the scientific provinces of that empire, I think this Association will deserve well of the nation if it succeed in quickening public interest in the desirability of submitting to a like intensive treatment a literary province of the empire of mind, a literary province which is quite as important as any other in the circle of the arts. The endowment of literary and philological research will never be so expensive as the endowment of scientific research, and the intellectual efficiency of the nation in its highest aspects will be incompletely or one-sidedly developed if the literary side of advanced study be overlooked or denied a fairly proportioned share of practical recognition.

III

There is another point of view which gives research in foreign languages and literature—and especially in foreign literature—a peculiar and a very emphatic political importance, an importance which, great as it is at the moment, is likely hereafter to increase. To a larger extent abroad than at home, the men of letters of a nation are reckoned national heroes and benefactors, and for the scholarship of one country to throw new light by dint of research on the literature of another is welcomed by the enlightened opinion of that other country as an act of fraternal homage which helps to promote good understanding between the two peoples at large. If this Association, therefore, stimulate literary research in foreign literature it will, I claim, be deepening and broadening the

fraternal bases of humanity, and will be smoothing the path of that League of Nations which is to consecrate the coming peace.

I may perhaps illustrate this general point by a special instance. I think it is the conviction of us all that our entente with France gives the happiest assurance of the future well-being not of the two countries alone but of the civilised globe. We shall all be agreed, too, that no effort on our part to perpetuate that auspicious entente should be spared. In glancing at the history of that entente and at the stages through which it reached fruition, I think it no extravagance to reckon among the favouring breezes the recent development in France of research in our own literature.

It is to be admitted that the French reading public has shown a lively interest in many of our great authors, notably in our novelists, for some two centuries. Shakespeare during the same period has had somewhat chequered fortunes in French opinion. I am not sure that the mere circulation of popular foreign literature in native translations has very much effect on international political relations. But within quite recent times, within scarcely more than the last thirty years, English literature has experienced at the hands of French scholars a new and previously unknown attention. English literature has been promoted to the rank of a learned study, and research of a progressive intensity by French savants has shed new light on many passages of our literary history. Numerous scholarly and erudite monographs from French pens bear witness to the excellent quality of French research in its exploration of our own literature. It would be invidious to cite examples from the growing mass of successful achievement in this direction, but I may perhaps mention in passing the work of Angellier on Burns, of Legouis on Wordsworth, of Berger on Blake, of Feuillerat on Lyly and the early organisation of the Elizabethan theatre. Nor could I willingly omit the great collection of books embodying the profound yet fascinating learning of M. Jusserand, long the French ambassador in Washington—a friend of my own, I am proud to add, of more than thirty years' standing.

To this new French movement I venture to attribute something at any rate of the change in political and social sentiment between the two nations. English literary research requires frequent visits to this country on the part of those who undertake it. It requires a perfect command of our language and an understanding of our temperament. The Frenchmen who have engaged, are engaging or will engage in such pursuit may never be very numerous, but I believe each one of them inevitably becomes the centre of a small circle from which radiates international good will. The greater their number, the better the prospect of the two peoples' happiness. This Association will, I trust, take to heart the French example and among its many aims will strive, *en revanche*, to foster research by English students in French literature, where there is still room, I venture to suggest, for much repaying effort.

This process of interchange in research is capable of very varied application. Italian literature, to which ours is deeply indebted, is wealthy enough to furnish English scholars with more opportunities of research than have yet been used. Thus our present alliance with Italy might be aided. Our literary loans from Scandinavian language and literature are sufficiently large to justify some of our students seeking fresh themes of research there. Many old nations, small in area and population, which glory in their national languages and literatures, are about to regain their long-lost independence and national liberties. There would be a mutual advantage if some of our students investigated the languages and literatures of Poland, Bohemia, Serbia and Armenia, and if students of those nationalities applied themselves to the advanced study of our language and literature. I am aware that some are already thus engaged. Any assistance that this Association can render them and those who follow in their footsteps will, I feel sure, be most readily rendered. It will, I imagine, be one of the aspirations of this Association to encourage and facilitate every permutation of research of the kind.

Then there is the correlated comparative study of literatures, the precise measuring of the debt which one country's

ideas, thought and fancy owe to another country's. This branch of literary study is again capable of vast expansion and well-nigh infinite development. Its importance and interest deserve a far fuller recognition than has yet been given it. Valuable contributions have been made in France, America, Germany and this country, but it is easy to suggest fresh directions in which comparative literary research may be pursued with profit.

Ideas and literary forms are like words always travelling in more or less mysterious ways from one literature to another, and the close observation of the processes is as exhilarating as any branch of learning. Here again is work which makes for international goodwill. The efficient study of comparative literature which illustrates and explains the never resting interchange of thought and fancy is likely to prove that the English-speaking world and its European allies are "for intellectual and spiritual purposes" already well qualified to become "one great confederation bound to a joint action and working to a common result."

IV

In this country research has never been exclusively pursued by those practically engaged in education, and our Association looks for support to many who are not in any way connected with Colleges or Schools. In the subjects with which we are specially concerned, English philology, phonology, literary history, criticism and biography, the active researchers include Thorpe, Ellis, Furnivall, Courthope, Leslie Stephen and several of a younger generation who cannot be reckoned among professional instructors of youth. In Germany and America, and indeed in France and Italy, it is much rarer than with us to find learning advanced by men, so to speak, of the world. We may rest assured that the English tradition of non-academic research will continue with undiminished benefit to the cause of knowledge.

At the same time it is of good omen that the teaching profession in its higher branches should be liberally represented on our roll of members. To my mind, the systematic promotion of national research and the systematic improvement

in methods of research and the widening of the ranks of researchers can only come if the Universities and all places of advanced study acknowledge the obligation of enlisting in their teaching services men and women capable of adding by their own personal effort to the existing store of knowledge. I do not attach importance to the view that faculty for research impairs or is inconsistent with teaching efficiency. It may be possible, I know, to cite evidence in support of such a contention, but I believe that a broad examination of the facts will justify an opposite conclusion. I have heard it said that to employ an expert in research in teaching is like employing a razor to cut wood. There are, of course, proprieties to be observed. One would not reasonably expect a Gibbon or a Macaulay to instruct pass students in rudiments of history. You would not expect an eminent expert to devote eight hours a day all the working year round in oral instruction or the correction of exercises. There will too always be successful teachers in the lower branches of the educational system who will not and cannot engage in research. But in the higher branches the whole spirit of education will be quickened and will be genuinely progressive from generation to generation only if an aptitude for research is recognised as a qualification for the highest appointments. The conditions of such employment ought, too, to leave the professor or teacher adequate opportunity of continuously advancing in the seclusion of his laboratory or library the bounds of his knowledge for the good of himself and others.

Personally I welcome very cordially Clause 23 of Mr Fisher's new Education Act, which definitely encourages teachers "to carry on any investigation for the advancement of learning or research," and the local education authority is authorised by the clause to aid educational institutions in or in connection with which research is pursued. The wording of the clause is scarcely a model of perspicuity. But this Clause 23, at any rate, substantially recognises the value of advanced study to teaching efficiency. It recognises that the power of teaching well co-exists with the power of investigating well. Indeed the clause does something more. It does something which a parliamentary enactment has never done

before, it acknowledges an obligation on the part of public authorities to provide research with a pecuniary encouragement out of public funds. The clause may prove the thin end of the wedge.

Another point is worth a word. History tells us that professors inspired by a passion and a power for research stimulate in a unique fashion the zeal and efficiency of the best kind of student. It is well known how in the past the reputation of very erudite teachers drew to their lecture-rooms students from all quarters who in due time went out into the world to spread the knowledge of their professor's work and by their own efforts to carry that work many stages forward. Such students invariably preserve affectionate memories of their professor's guidance and counsel, and the system fosters harmony throughout the spheres of learning. Indeed, where the fame of a researching professor works as a magnet attracting foreign students, the system very signally contributes to international good fellowship.

I hope this Association may do something to give new strength to the beneficent influence exerted by researching professors on the educational hierarchy. This Association might usefully set up an advisory bureau to which students from all parts of the world might turn for advice, when they are seeking the professorial aid best fitted to develop their special proclivities in research.

V

I think this Association should so organise itself from the outset as to be an effective instrument of propaganda. Many modes of activity in that direction will occur to all of us.

I have incidentally offered one or two practical suggestions as to procedure. Little time is left me now to do much more. Those who follow me will, I hope, supply my defects in this regard.

There should, I take it, be regular meetings of members at which reports of progress in special investigations will be tendered and discussed, where the merits and demerits of specimens of research will be debated, where persons, erudite and less erudite, will state what they think of one another.

In course of time there will probably be need of some sectional distribution of the membership, so numerous are modern languages and literatures and so impossible is it for one person to interest himself or herself equally in all. Members who are actively engaged in research should register with the Society the particular topic which they have undertaken and the titles should be circulated in a bulletin which must form an important part of the Society's machinery. Although in research the student must plough his own furrow and no substituted service of any substantial kind is permissible, it is legitimate for him to invite and accept subsidiary suggestion and advice. The cooperative spirit should be kept thoroughly alive.

Bacon showed by a practical example that the first preliminary to a substantial extension of research in any and every branch of knowledge was to survey what had been done and report on what remained to be done. He advised what he called "a public designation concerning such parts of knowledge as may appear not to have been already sufficiently laboured and undertaken." I think cooperative and coordinated effort in such a direction should be organised at an early date by this Association, as far as modern languages and literatures are concerned. The field of collective, critical bibliography in these departments of learning is, in my opinion, in urgent need of up-to-date development. The hour seems ripening for a vigorous attempt to supply the deficiency. The foundations of the *New English Dictionary* were laid as long ago as 1858. Those of the *Dictionary of National Biography* were laid in 1882. Both those enterprises are testimonies to the ingenuity and energy of Victorian scholarship. The time seems almost to have come round when some equally imposing venture of cognate aim should be launched under the auspices of our own Georgian age. An exhaustive historical and critical bibliography of modern languages and literatures conceived in the spirit of Bacon's *Advancement of Learning*, with the deficiencies and insufficiencies duly noted, might well carry forward whatever is good in the Victorian tradition. Such an undertaking, while its preparation would furnish students with excellent practical opportunities of

right training, would stimulate useful research hereafter and make its foundations sound. Many years and many hands would be needed, but this Association would well justify itself if it gave such a project a prominent place in its programme.

VI

Let my last words, like my first, echo the wisdom of the greatest of English prophets and champions of research, Francis Bacon. In his great plea for the advancement of learning, Bacon laid down three general fundamental conditions which, in his view, could alone ensure the success of sustained researching endeavour.

A chief condition was what Bacon called "conjunction of labour" (by which he meant fraternal cooperation in the way of personal intercourse and correspondence) "whereby," he said, "the frailty of man may be supplied" (i.e. corrected or insured against).

Next there must be, in Bacon's view, "soundness of direction," by which he meant there should be opportunities for training students in sound method, in method which "preventeth error."

The third Baconian condition is that research should be adequately rewarded; "only thus," Bacon said, with his penetrating common sense, could "endeavour be multiplied."

This Association intends, I cannot doubt, to do all it can to satisfy all three conditions. We want to cherish fraternal union in the largest sense among ourselves and with all English speaking peoples and all our Allies and all neutrals. We seek "sound direction," we wish to encourage efficient training in research. Finally we appeal to those who control private and public wealth to provide such funds as may "multiply endeavour." No country of prestige and wealth has hitherto contributed so little to the endowment of research as Great Britain. Mr Fisher's Act offers a welcome gleam of light. Let us in the coming period of Reconstruction use all our powers of persuasion and argument individually and corporately to convert that gleam, if not into a blaze, at any rate into a steady flame.

SECRETARY'S STATEMENT

OF THE PROGRESS OF THE ASSOCIATION DURING THE PERIOD JUNE TO DECEMBER 1918

ON June 1, 1918, at a meeting of some twenty Cambridge teachers and students, the Association had its birth. On December 1, 1918, after a period of six months characterised successively by Long Vacation, widespread Influenza, and the coming of Peace, it was able to show a roll of 162 members, of whom some 85 per cent. were "ordinary" or "Active" members. It has been an auspicious beginning, and the welcome accorded to the Association by numerous correspondents at home and abroad, and by all sections of the Press, testifies to the real need which its proposed activities will meet.

The Association is already beginning to spread its roots wide. Not only does its membership embrace every University and practically every University College in the British Isles, but it has members from the United States, France, Belgium, and various parts of the British Empire. Equally diversified are the subjects which its members make their studies. English language and literature (in the widest sense) takes, very properly, the foremost place. French naturally comes next. The other modern languages studied include Welsh, Irish, Spanish, Italian, Russian, Dutch, German, Serbian, Rumanian and Modern Greek, while a nucleus of members interested in Oriental Studies has also been formed. Some of these language-groups, owing to the energy of those who are interested in them, have begun to form living organisms within the Association; the first group to do this has been the Italian, in which some collective work is being undertaken. The Secretary will do all in his power to stimulate such group-work, especially in the less frequently studied languages.

Among its earliest members, the Association has been happy in enrolling some thirty persons engaged in secondary school teaching. The Committee is most anxious that all teachers who have the time and the inclination for research work should be brought inside the Association, which, for their own sake and for that of the future of Modern Language teaching, will give them every assistance in its power. It is also gratifying to notice to what a large extent students working independently of Universities have joined the Association, as was hoped by its founders; nor must it be forgotten that when the armistice with

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Germany was signed the Association had upon its roll nearly a dozen members "On Active Service."

So much work has been necessary to set the Association upon a firm basis that little has yet been done to give its activities a practical shape. A few notes, however, appear on another page, and it is hoped that the next number of this *Bulletin* will contain a comprehensive account of the immediate work to be undertaken.

ABSTRACT OF MEETINGS

The FIRST GENERAL MEETING, held on June 1, 1918 at Christ's College, Cambridge, was naturally of a somewhat local character. After the Association had been inaugurated, a small Committee (the nucleus of the present committee as now constituted) was appointed to draw up a provisional prospectus and the Rules of the Association. It was decided to make the minimum annual subscription for the present as low as possible (five shillings), the general feeling being that a large membership was essential to the success of the Association. Members were to be invited to contribute in excess of the minimum sum payable in order to help cover the Association's initial expenses.

The SECOND GENERAL MEETING, on June 22, 1918, passed, with some few changes, the Rules and the Prospectus as drawn up by the Committee. It was resolved that persons duly qualified for membership of the Association might become: 1. Ordinary members, if actually engaged in or contemplating research. 2. Associate members, if in sympathy with the aims of the Association, but not personally engaged in research. 3. Honorary Advisory members, if able and willing to offer expert advice from time to time upon special branches of study. Ordinary and Associate members, if qualified to do so, might also act as Advisory members. Non-graduates might be admitted to membership at the discretion of the Committee. It was decided to ask the Modern Language Association and the English Association to nominate one member each to sit on the Committee of the M.L.R.A.; both Associations accepted the invitation.

On October 19, 1918 in the Hall of Bedford College, London, was held the Association's FIRST ANNUAL MEETING, at which the President, Sir Sidney Lee, delivered the Address which is reprinted in this *Bulletin*. At the beginning of the proceedings, Sir Sidney read part of a letter from the Minister of Education, who wrote: "I wish you every success in your new endeavour, and hope that the Association will provide a rallying-ground for Modern Language scholars, who have too often in the past been

compelled to work in isolation, without that encouragement and support which comes from regular and constant intercourse with their fellow-workers in the same field of knowledge."

At the conclusion of the Presidential Address, the Hon. Secretary gave a short account of the formation and the progress of the Association, and various representative speakers from the crowded audience expressed their satisfaction at its inauguration. These were Professor Cunliffe, of Columbia University, New York; the Right Reverend Bishop Browne; Professor Hamélius, of Liège; Mr H. D. Davray, Secretary of the Anglo-French Society; and Professor Salmon, of University College, Reading. A cordial vote of thanks to the President was moved by Colonel the Hon. H. J. Cody, Minister of Education in Ontario, Canada, and seconded by Professor J. G. Robertson.

While space does not allow us to record in any detail the appreciative comments of the Press upon this first Annual Meeting, we must make a short extract from a leading article in the Educational Supplement of *The Times*: "It would be difficult to overrate the value of the labours that lie before Sir Sidney Lee and his fellow-workers.... In movements such as the Modern Language Research Association we may well see the seeds of a new Renaissance making for a League of Universities and a League of Nations. In this joint effort of men and women of various nations we may well see scholars 'deepening and broadening the fraternal basis of humanity,' to use Sir Sidney Lee's apt phrase. Mutual research, whether it be into the secrets that underlie natural science or law, languages or literature, philosophy or art, is a bond not easily broken between nation and nation. The hold that Germany had secured on the world before the war was in a large measure due to the work of her scholars in regions of research that affected other nations. It was difficult to persuade men that scholars of this type were used by their Government for political purposes, and one of the minor tragedies of the war has been this disillusionment."

"We look forward," says the *Journal of Education*, in its November issue, "to an ever-increasing exchange of fruitful ideas and a genuine appreciation of scholarship among the general public as the result of the powerful movement that is vindicating the claims of modern language study; and we therefore wish all success to this Association. Let all engaged in research rally to it, and may it become ever more helpful in encouraging the study of the modern humanities!"

FIRST LIST OF MEMBERS

(TO NOVEMBER 15, 1918)

An asterisk (*) denotes Honorary Member; a dagger (†) Associate Member. In this preliminary list Advisory Members are not specially indicated.

The Hon. Secretary will be grateful for any corrections on points of detail, which will be embodied in the Annual List.

The names of members elected after December 1, 1918, will appear in the next number of the *Bulletin*.

Abbott, H. H., M.A., Royal Grammar School, Worcester and Broomfield, Chelmsford, Essex.

† Alcock, Miss Rachel, 41 Owlstone Road, Cambridge.

Alison, Miss M. K., 2 Crescent Villas, Heath End, Farnham, Surrey.

Anderson, J. D., M.A., Mostyn House, Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge.

Babington, Percy L., M.A., LL.B., 48 Bridge Street, Cambridge.

Baker, Professor A. T., M.A., Ph.D., Bennet Grange, Fulwood, Sheffield.

Banks, Mrs M. M., 7 Wadham Gardens, London, N.W. 3.

Barrington, Miss M. L., M.A., 6 Trinity College, Dublin.

Barst, M. L., Ph.D., 200 Upper Clapton Road, London, E. 5.

Barton, F. T., M.A., B.Litt., University of Leeds and The Church House, Bawtry, Yorks.

Bell, Alexander, M.A., 31 Hanover Square, Leeds.

Beza, M., L. ès L., Rumanian Legation, 4 Cromwell Place, London, S.W.

Birch, M. V., 82 Middle Temple, London, E.C.

Black, Miss D. W., Girton College, Cambridge.

Block, Miss K. S., M.A., Royal Holloway College, Englefield Green, Surrey.

Boas, Professor F. S., M.A., LL.D., 51 Longridge Road, London, S.W. 5.

Boland, P. J., Glenarde, Galway, Ireland.

Braunholtz, E. G. W., M.A., Ph.D., Goslar, Adams Road, Cambridge.

Brul, Professor Karl, Litt.D., Ph.D., Barton Cottage, Barton Road, Cambridge.

Briley, W. P., 12 Hollybank Road, Drumcondra, Dublin.

† Burslam, W. M., 77 Clitheroe Road, Longsight, Manchester.

Butler, Miss K. T., Girton College, Cambridge.

* Castro, J. Paul de, 1 Essex Court, Temple, London, E.C. 4.

Chaney, E. F., M.A., 9 Heaton Grove, Bradford, Yorks.

Charlton, H. B., Victoria University, Manchester, and Keithock, Marple Bridge, Stockport.

† Chase, Miss A. E., 11 Gaynesford Road, Forest Hill, London, S.E. 23.

Chaytor, Rev. H. J., M.A., The College, Plymouth.

FIRST LIST OF MEMBERS

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- Cheshire, (Lieut.) H. T., B.A., 68 Bedford Street North, Liverpool,
and Rayleigh, Warwick Avenue, Coventry.
- Chouville, L., B. ès Sc., B. ès L., 29 de Freville Avenue, Cambridge.
- Chryssanthopoulos, J. P., LL.D., 5 Lime Grove, Uxbridge Road,
London, W. 12.
- Coulton, G. G., M.A., Great Shelford, Cambridge.
- Craigie, Professor W. A., M.A., LL.D., 15 Charlbury Road, Oxford.
- Crump, Miss P. E., B.A., Ashburne Hall, Fallowfield, Manchester.
- Cunliffe, Professor J. W., D.Lit., 16 Pall Mall East, London, S.W. 1,
and Columbia University, New York City, U.S.A.
- † Darrell, R., 1 Manor Road, Shaw, Lancs.
- Davray, Henry D., 8 St Martin's Place, London, W.C. 2.
- Dawson, Mrs Edmund, 69 High Street, Oxford.
- Deanesly, Miss Margaret, M.A., Newnham College, Cambridge.
- Dobelli, Miss E. Bice, Bedford College and 19 Church Row, London,
N.W. 3.
- Dodds, Miss M. Hope, Home House, Low Fell, Gateshead.
- Douglas, Sir George, Springwood Park, Kelso, N.B.
- Downs, B. W., B.A., Christ's College, Cambridge.
- Eady, Mrs M., B.A., 11 Holly Place, Hampstead, London, N.W. 3.
- Elder, J. R., M.A., Litt.D., 189 Westburn Road, Aberdeen, N.B.
- Everett, Miss Dorothy, Royal Holloway College, Englefield Green,
Surrey.
- Farnell, Miss Ida, Amberley, Somers Road, Reigate, Surrey.
- Fiedler, Professor H. G., M.V.O., M.A., Ph.D., The Lane House,
Norham Road, Oxford.
- Finch, Miss M. B., M.A., 8 Petersfield, Cambridge.
- Ford, Miss Gertrude E., M.A., Chesterfield House, Ashford, Middlesex.
- Garabedian, D., M.A., L. ès L., 20 St Michael's Street, Oxford.
- Gardiner, Miss L. J., M.A., 6 Salisbury Villas, Cambridge.
- Gardner, E. G., Litt.D., St Joseph's Cottage, Mill Hill, London, N.W. 7.
- † Geldert, Miss M. C., 10 Moreton Road, Oxford.
- Gibson, Miss Mary H., M.A., B.Litt., Ph.D., 29 Woburn Place,
London, W.C. 1.
- Giles, P., Litt.D., LL.D., Emmanuel College Lodge, Cambridge.
- Goates, Miss M., Inglenook, Hessle, Yorks.
- Grierson, Professor H. J. C., M.A., LL.D., F.R.S.L., 12 Regent
Terrace, Edinburgh.
- Hadow, Sir W. Henry, M.A., D.Mus., F.R.S.L., Armstrong College,
Newcastle-on-Tyne.
- Harmer, Miss F. E., 31 Darenth Road, Stamford Hill, London, N. 16.
- Harrison, Miss J. E., LL.D., D.Litt., Newnham College, Cambridge.
- * Hayes, B. J., M.A., Burlington House, Cambridge.
- Hayward, R. L., B.A., Caterham School, Caterham Valley, Surrey.
- Hoare, Alfred, M.A., 37 Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4.
- Hogg, Miss A., 6 Trinity College, Dublin.
- Hughes, Lieut. Merritt Yorkes, Intelligence Office, A.E.F., Goring
Street, London, S.W. 1.

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- Irwin, Rev. G. F., M.A., The Vicarage, Wallington, Surrey.
Jackson, Rev. H. Latimer, D.D., Little Canfield Rectory, Dunmow, Essex.
Johnson, Miss F. C., M.A., Bedford College, London, N.W., and 25 York Street Chambers, Bryanston Square, London, W. 1.
Jourdain, Miss E. F., D. de l'U., St Hugh's College, Oxford.
Kastner, Professor L. E., M.A., Victoria University, Manchester and Hawthornden, Buxton, Derbyshire.
Kershaw, Miss N., 6 Moray Park, St Andrew's, N.B.
Latham, Edward, 61 Friends Road, Croydon, Surrey.
Lee, Sir Sidney, D.Litt., LL.D., Litt.D., F.B.A., *President*, 108A Lexham Gardens, Kensington, London, W. 8.
† Legge, Capt. Arthur E. J., 48 Brompton Square, London, S.W. 3.
Levin, Miss Helen, Westover, Gosforth, Northumberland.
Mackenzie, Sheriff-Substitute D. J., 17 Athole Gardens, Glasgow, N.B.
† McLean, N., M.A., Christ's College, Cambridge.
Mawer, Allen, M.A., Armstrong College, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Mead, Miss Doris M., B.A., Royal Holloway College, Englefield Green, Surrey.
Milner-Barry, Miss Alda, Newnham College, Cambridge.
Montgomery, Marshall, M.A., B.Litt., Langdale House, Park Town, Oxford.
Moore, F. C., M.A., 15 Selborne Grove, Keighley, Yorks.
* Morley, Professor Edith J., University College, Reading.
Neilson, George, LL.D., 76 Partickhill Road, Glasgow, N.B.
Oelsner, Herman, M.A., Ph.D., Savage Club, Adelphi, London, W.C.2.
Osmond-Barnard, Miss E., Le Mesnil, Bromley, Kent.
Page, Miss Florence, M.A., Bedford College, London, N.W., and 31 Chatsworth Road, Brondesbury, London, N.W. 2.
Pauces, Miss A. C., Newnham College, Cambridge.
Payen-Payne, De V., 49 Nevern Square, London, S.W. 5.
Peers, E. Allison, M.A., The Old School House, Felsted, Essex, and 24 Beaufort Road, Kingston-on-Thames.
Pope, Miss M. K., D. de l'U., Somerville College, Oxford.
Popovic, Professor Pavle, University of Belgrade, Serbia, and 115 Gloucester Road, London, S.W. 7.
Powell, Miss Annie E., The University, Bristol, and Oldchurch, Watermillock, Penrith.
Powell, Miss M. J., M.A., 7 Rossetti Garden Mansions, Chelsea, London, S.W. 3.
Price, J. Benjamin, M.A., County School for Boys, Beckenham, Kent.
Prior, O. H., D. ès L., 82 Dunchurch Road, Rugby.
Purves, John, M.A., 30 Rosendale Road, West Dulwich, London, S.E. 21.
Quiggin, E. C., M.A., Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge.
Reed, Charles, Dock House, Canute Road, Southampton.
Renton, Miss J. K., M.A., 6 Trinity College, Dublin.

FIRST LIST OF MEMBERS

23

- Roberts, T. F., M.A., LL.D., University College of North Wales, Aberystwyth.
- Robertson, Professor J. G., M.A., B.Sc., Ph.D., 90 Regent's Park Road, London, N.W. 1.
- Robson, Ernest I., M.A., 69 Ladbroke Grove, London, W. 11.
- * Rudler, Professor G., D. ès L., 61 Haverstock Hill, London, N.W. 3.
- Rudmose-Brown, Professor T. B., M.A., D. ès L., 22 Trinity College, Dublin.
- Saalfeld, Mrs Alfred, The Elms, Bickley, Kent.
- * Saintsbury, Professor George, M.A., LL.D., D.Litt., F.B.A., 1 Royal Crescent, Bath.
- Salmon, Professor A. V., 54 Western Elms Avenue, Reading.
- Sambucetti, Chevalier T., 15 Langham Place, London, W. 1.
- Samuels, Miss B. C., B.A., Maldon Cottage, Green Road, Ashbourne, Derbyshire.
- Savage, Miss M. E., B.A., 5 Reginald Road, Bearwood, Birmingham.
- Side, Miss B. M., B.A., 25 Greenheys Road, Liverpool South.
- Simmins, Miss C. A., Newnham College, Cambridge, and 9 Porchester Terrace, London, W. 2.
- † Simonetti, Signora, 38 Richmond Gardens, London, W. 12.
- Skipworth, Miss M. Grey, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford.
- Sloman, (Lieut.) H. N. P., M.A., The Grammar School, Sydney, N.S.W. and (temporarily) Sandy Rectory, Beds.
- Smart, J. S., 11 Western Terrace, Murrayfield, Edinburgh.
- * Smith, Professor G. C. Moore, Litt.D., 31 Endcliffe Rise Road, Sheffield.
- † Smith, Lieut. W. Furley, 80 Clarendon Road, Putney, London, S.W. 15.
- Spearing, Miss E. M., M.A., Troôdos, Great Shelford, Cambs. and St Hugh's College, Oxford.
- Spurgeon, Professor C. F. E., D. de l'U., F.R.S.L., 19 Clarence Gate Gardens, London, N.W. 1.
- † Steele-Smith, Miss M., Newnham College, Cambridge.
- Stewart, Rev. H. F., D.D., Trinity College and The Malting House, Cambridge.
- Stockley, Miss V., 130 Queen's Avenue, Watford, Herts.
- Stockley, Professor W. P., M.A., Woodside, Tivoli, Cork, Ireland.
- Strachey, Miss J. P., Newnham College, Cambridge.
- Stronge, C. C., M.A., Magee College, Londonderry, Ireland.
- Summers, Rev. Montague, M.A., F.R.S.L., 15 Eton Road, Hampstead, London, N.W. 3.
- Sykes, H. Dugdale, LL.B., The Cedars, Enfield, Middlesex.
- * Terracher, Professor A., D. ès L., The University and 114 Bedford Street South, Liverpool.
- Thomas, E. J., M.A., University Library, Cambridge.
- † Thouaille, A. S., 2 Victoria Street, Manchester.
- Toynbee, Paget, M.A., D.Litt., F.R.Hist.S., Fiveways, Burnham, Bucks.

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Tuke, Miss M. J., M.A., Bedford College, London, N.W.

† Turner, Miss E. E., 42 Halford Road, Richmond, Surrey.

Walsh, Miss A., 9 Owlstone Road, Cambridge.

Walton, L. B., B.A., Jesus College, Oxford, and Arundel, Kempshott Road, Streatham, London, S.W. 16.

Ward, Sir A. W., Litt.D., LL.D., Ph.D., F.B.A., Peterhouse Lodge, Cambridge.

* Warren, Sir T. Herbert, K.C.V.O., M.A., D.C.L., Magdalen College, Oxford.

Watkins, W. J. H., B.A., The Grammar School, Mirfield, Yorks.

Webster, Miss S. R., M.A., 26 Ewlyn Road, Cheltenham.

Weekley, Professor Ernest, M.A., University College, Nottingham.

Welsford, Miss E. E. H., Newnham College, Cambridge, and The Cottage, Peterborough Hill, Harrow.

Whitbread, W. B., M.A., 55 Grantham Road, Brighton.

White, H. O., B.A., University Philosophical Society, and Trinity College, Dublin.

Williams, Alex. M., M.A., 53 Sherbrooke Avenue, Glasgow South, N.B.

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Wilson, F. P., M.A., B.Litt., 31 Upper Brook Street, London, W. 1.

† Wolstencraft, Alfred S., Section Sanitaire Anglaise 13, Sect. Post. 54, France.

Woolf, E. Alec, B.A., D. en L., 5 Rowhill Mansions, Clapton, London, E.

Wrenn, C. L., B.A., B.Litt., 52 Western Hill, Durham.

† Yao, Y. H., 32 Russell Square, London, W.C. 1.

MODERN LANGUAGE RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP. Membership is open to graduates (and persons of the standing of graduates) of all Universities, British and foreign, and to other persons at the discretion of the Committee.

SUBSCRIPTION. The minimum annual subscription is 5s., payable to the Hon. Secretary on or before the 1st of October in each year for the academic year ending on the following 30th of September. Details as to Life Subscriptions will shortly be published. The Secretary would be glad to receive the few outstanding current subscriptions as soon as possible, together with the Forms of Admission of some thirty members who have not yet returned them.

PROSPECTUS. A provisional Prospectus explaining the aims and constitution of the M.L.R.A. is in circulation, and the Secretary will be glad to send a copy to any non-member who is interested in Modern Language Research.

INFORMATION. Any member desiring information on either general or particular topics may, for the present, insert a notice in the *Bulletin*, which is circulated to all members.

SUBJECTS FOR RESEARCH. The Secretary is from time to time receiving queries as to suitable subjects for research from members who are not in touch with University teachers. He will therefore be grateful if all members who can suggest subjects in their own fields will communicate them to him, that he may pass them on to any who wish to work upon them. Acknowledgment will always be made on behalf of those to whom such subjects are passed on, and no subjects will be published except by permission of the person suggesting them.

COLLECTIVE WORK. Members having suggestions as to collective work which they think might suitably be undertaken by the Association are asked to make in respect of each suggestion a communication (in duplicate) to the Secretary. All communications will be considered by experts; those found practicable will be put into motion at once, while others will be filed for reference. Abstracts both of those adopted and those filed will be published in the *Bulletin*, together with other suggestions received, and periodical reports of progress.

A meeting of members in the North of England will be held at the University, Manchester, on Wednesday, January 15, 1919, at 3 p.m. Further particulars may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary.

Copy for the next number of the *Bulletin* should reach the Hon. Secretary not later than February 15, 1919.

CAPITAL FUND

To defray the heavy initial expenses of the Association and to enable it to carry into effect its schemes (the most essential yet most costly of which is Publication) a Capital Fund has been started, which aims at raising a first total of £1,000.

The Committee appeals to all members who can do so to make a special contribution, large or small. It also hopes that many who are not themselves members will give substantial form to their recognition of the value of Modern Language studies and research by subscribing liberally to this Fund.

Cheques and (crossed) Postal Orders should be made payable to E. Allison Peers, Felsted, Essex.

